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In order to avoid that the vacuum applied to the extruder 8, in particular within the degassing-zones, acts back to the main processing apparatus 4, provisions are to be made that the compression within the extruder 8, or the tightening action of the material conveyed by the extruder are so great that any reaction of the vacuum to the main processing device 4 is avoided. The same holds for a reaction of the vacuum of the main processing apparatus 4 to the pre-processing apparatus 3. In this case, however, a reaction can be excluded by providing the sluice with suitable sluice sliding gates 15'. If the pre-processing apparatus 3 is directly connected to the main processing apparatus 3, the conveying screw must be vacuum-tight.